



Atty. Dkt. No. 072121-0189-Reg

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jang HAN et al.

Title: Modified Small Interfering RNA Molecules and Methods of Use

Appl. No.: 10/626,879

Filing Date: July 25, 2003

Examiner: Jane J. ZARA

Art Unit: 1635

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS FOR
PATENT APPLICATIONS CONTAINING NUCLEOTIDE AND/OR
AMINO ACID SEQUENCE DISCLOSURES**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures, dated March 10, 2006, Applicants submit the following arguments.

The Examiner asserted that the application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825. Specifically, the Examiner requested that Applicants provide SEQ ID NOs where appropriate, *e.g.*, claims 13, 14 and 44, pages 8 and 31, and Figures 1 and 2.

Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the Preliminary Amendment filed November 1, 2004, in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application dated May 7, 2004. A copy of the Preliminary Amendment, as well as our filing receipt, date stamped by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, is enclosed. Additionally, our filing receipt shows that a computer-readable form (CRF) of the sequence listing, a paper copy of the sequence listing, and a Statement to Support Filing and Submission in

Accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825 were also filed on November 1, 2004. Since no changes have been made to the sequence listing, the undersigned believes that it is not necessary to submit copies of these documents again.

The amendment filed on November 1, 2004, amended the specification on page 31 to include SEQ ID NOs associated with the sequences disclosed. Further, the same amendment amended the specification to include the SEQ ID NOs in Figures 1-3.

According to 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(a), only sequences of 10 or more nucleotides are required to conform with sequence disclosure rules. The nucleotide sequence listed on page 8 of the specification, TAAACGAAC, only contains 9 nucleotides. Therefore, TAAACGAAC was not assigned a SEQ ID NO., and thus, was not included in the Preliminary Amendment.

Finally, claims 13, 42, and 44 do not contain literal sequences. Accordingly, no identifiers are required.

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date April 10, 2006

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